

All's well with Voyager II

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, Aug. 22 (R). — U.S. scientists said today the Voyager II spacecraft appeared to be working well on its journey to the outer reaches of the solar system. "We are enormously relieved about the condition of Voyager II," spacecraft manager John Casani told reporters. "I feel we can complete the mission without impairment." Officials earlier had been concerned about the position of a boom which holds television cameras and scientific experiments. Voyager II, launched on Saturday, is hurtling towards Jupiter, the largest planet in the solar system, at 36,800 kph. It is scheduled to reach the giant planet in July 1979 — four months after its sister ship, Voyager I, which will travel a shorter route but will not be launched until Sept. 3.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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French minister says S. Africa will explode atomic device

PARIS, Aug. 22 (R). — French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud said today that South Africa is preparing to carry out an atomic explosion.

France has told South Africa that any such blast could endanger chances of peace in the area.

M. de Guiringaud said in a radio interview. "We have information that preparations are under way in South Africa for an atomic explosion which the

South Africans say will be peaceful.

"We have told South Africa that we could exchange an explosion for peace in Southern Africa and could have serious effects on relations between our two countries," he added.

M. de Guiringaud was speaking after a Foreign Ministry spokesman said France had expressed concern to Pretoria over reports that South Africa planned to make nuclear bombs.

The Soviet news agency Tass has accused South Africa of preparing a nuclear arsenal with the help of a commercial contract with France which has agreed to supply Pretoria with two nuclear power plants.

In his radio interview today M. de Guiringaud referred to Soviet allegations that under a French contract to supply South Africa with two nuclear reactors Pretoria would be able to produce enough plutonium to manufacture 10 atomic bombs within a year.

He said that terms of the contract stipulated that recycling of nuclear waste would take place in France and that the extracted plutonium needed to make atomic bombs would not be exported to South Africa.

It is totally untrue to say that these reactors would help South Africa to acquire atomic weapons, he said.

M. de Guiringaud, on his recent tour of east Africa, emphasised France's condemna-

tion of South Africa's apartheid policy and his government's intention to supply no more arms to South Africa.

Earlier today a Foreign Ministry spokesman here said that France had intervened diplomatically with South Africa after obtaining "more precise indications" of Pretoria's intentions to manufacture atomic bombs.

The Soviet Union has accused South Africa of completing an atomic bomb and preparing to test it in the near future.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said Paris had received further information since then. "These gave precise indications, increased our apprehensions and led us to approach South Africa on Aug. 18. We have informed the United States and Soviet governments of this step" the spokesman added.

Asked about South African Defence Minister Pik Botha's denials that Pretoria planned to manufacture an atomic bomb, the spokesman said his remarks were being studied. But if South Africa went ahead with such a step France would condemn it and Pretoria would have to take all the consequences which would follow this condemnation, the spokesman added.

In Pretoria yesterday, Mr. Botha said his government had told the United States and other countries that Soviet charges that South Africa was about to test a nuclear weapon were "wholly and totally unfounded."



TALKS OPEN — U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance (right) opens talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua (left) in Peking Monday. (AP wirephoto).

U.S. wants full ties with Peking, says Vance

PEKING, Aug. 22 (R). — Secretary of State Cyrus Vance told the Chinese today that the Carter administration aimed at full diplomatic links with Peking, but his hosts reiterated their wish that the U.S. sever links with Taiwan.

Mr. Vance, whose visit is the Carter administration's first high-level contact with the new Chinese leadership, spoke when proposing a toast at a banquet which followed a first round of formal discussion.

Mr. Vance had arrived from Tokyo this morning and was driven to his guest house past tens of thousands of people marching to the thud of drums and firecrackers in celebration of the just-ended 11th Communist Party Congress.

The Sino-American talks opened in the Great Hall of the People with the Chinese side, headed by Foreign Minister Huang Hua, listening without comment to an overall view of American policy followed by a region-to-region breakdown.

A U.S. spokesman said Mr. Vance covered Europe, Asia, south Asia, the Mediterranean and the Middle East.

The spokesman indicated that the Taiwan issue — the main stumbling block in the normalisation of Sino-American relations — would be dealt with later as a bilateral issue. Foreign Minister Huang, in his banquet toast tonight, left no doubt about China's position on Taiwan.

He referred to a speech by Communist Party Chairman Hua Kuo-feng to the Party Congress, in which Mr. Hua said Sino-American relations

"will continue to improve provided the principles laid down in the (1972 Shanghai) communique are carried out in earnest."

Mr. Hua told the Congress the U.S. had to sever diplomatic and military ties with Taiwan and that China was determined to "liberate" the island in its own time and way with "no foreign interference whatsoever."

Mr. Vance said in his banquet toast the Sino-American relationship had "become an important factor contributing to peace in Asia and elsewhere in the world."

President Carter had stated U.S. policy would continue to be guided by the principles of the Shanghai communique and "normalisation is the goal of that policy," he said.

The secretary of state said the U.S. was strengthening its relations with its traditional allies and "we seek to improve relations with former adversaries."

Nothing immediate is expected from the current talks by the U.S. side, which regards them as essentially exploratory, although Chinese officials have privately expressed impatience at the slow rate of progress towards normalisation.

Mr. Vance is due to meet Mr. Huang for a second round of talks tomorrow morning, with the U.S. secretary of state covering Africa and Latin America in his policy review.

The Chinese are particularly interested in Africa and have strongly condemned Soviet policies on the continent.

Lebanese right poses threatening ultimatum

BEIRUT, Aug. 22 (R). — Lebanon's alliance of rightwing parties today indirectly threatened to unleash its powerful militias unless the government restored order in the Shouf mountains, where at least 11 people were reported killed in factional fighting yesterday.

The rightwing Phalangist radio reported that fighting continued today in several parts of the Shouf, a mountainous area south east of Beirut with a mixed population of Maronite Christians and members of the Moslem Druze sect, the power-base of leftist leader Walid Junblatt.

A spokesman for the "Lebanese front" of rightwing organisations said: "We give the government 24 hours to solve the situation in the Shouf. If it has not done so by then, the Lebanese front will take what measures it is able to take to ensure peaceful co-existence in the region."

Training forces

Observers here said this was a clear reference to intervention by militiamen of the rightwing parties which have been training and arming personnel at a rate by far outstripping the growth rate of the budding new Lebanese army.

The regular armed forces splintered into at least four factions during the 19-month civil war.

The spokesman blamed the severity of the fighting on lack of decisive and swift action by the government and the Arab League peace force which ended the civil war in most parts of Lebanon last Nov. 15.

More than 24 hours after the fighting flared, there was still no independent account of the reasons for the clashes.

According to the rightwing version, Druze villagers led by supporters of Mr. Junblatt machine-gunned a Christian church service as part of a plan to drive Christians out of the area, and "Balkanise" Lebanon.

The Arab League peace force ascribed the fighting to "purely local partisan reasons" and a spokesman for Mr. Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) said it was a personal quarrel, and had no political implications.

At least 150 people were killed in the Shouf area last March when Druze villagers attacked

Christian in retaliation to the assassination of leftist leader Kamal Junblatt by unidentified gunmen. He was succeeded by his son Walid as leader of the PSP and Lebanon's loose coalition of leftwing parties.

Most dangerous incident

Mr. Pierre Gemayel, leader of the Phalangist party — Lebanon's biggest rightwing organisation — today said the fighting in the Shouf was "more dangerous than any ... of the incidents since and during the war. A small spark could devour all."

The Shouf is one of the few regions in post-war Lebanon with a thoroughly mixed Moslem and Christian population. Both the Junblatt family and their political arch-rival, rightwing leader Camille Chamoun, come from there.

Observers here said the fighting underlined the fragility of Lebanon's truce and the lack of the peace's success in disarming the citizens of a country where the number of personal guns is said to exceed the total population.

The Lebanese right has linked the fighting in the Shouf with the volatile situation in southern Lebanon. The civil war antagonists have continued to hammer each other there after the war ended else-

where with the entry of the peace force.

The rightwing newspaper Al Ahrar today carried a cartoon depicting the fighting in the Shouf as the spark lighting a fuse labelled "south" and connected to a bomb marked "the Middle East."

Rightwing officials suggested that the left started the fighting to torpedo attempts for a ceasefire in the south, a contention denied by leftwing spokesmen.

Clashes continue

In the south one man was killed and 13 wounded in an exchange of artillery fire which began last night and continued today close to Lebanon's border with Israel, travellers from the area said.

Four Israeli aircraft today flew over the combat zones and broke the sound barrier over the ports of Tyre and Sidon, they added.

The market town of Nabatiyah, a leftist stronghold in the central sector, came under intensive artillery fire from rightist-held Qleia and Marjayoun today, the travellers said.

Palestinian commando sources said Israeli guns had joined rightists in shelling Palestinian-leftist positions. Several fires raged in the Hasbani Valley area after the shelling, travellers said.

U.K. diplomat holds first official meeting with high Palestinian official

BEIRUT, Aug. 22 (R). — Britain's ambassador to Syria, Mr. James Craig, has become the first senior British Diplomat to hold an open and direct meeting with a leading official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, sources said here today.

The sources said the ambassador called on Mr. Khaled Fahoum, speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC) — the Palestinians' parliament in exile — at his office in Damascus last Saturday. The sources said the meeting was arranged at Mr. Craig's request and the ambassador used his official limousine, with Union Jack flying, to drive to Mr. Fahoum's office.

Contacted from Beirut, Mr. Craig said the meeting had not been a formal call. He did not elaborate.

The sources said ambassadors from other European countries such as Holland and France had previously called on Mr. Fahoum while Britain and Germany had strictly followed United States practice of "no talks with PLO officials".

Palestinian officials here expressed hopes that the meeting in Damascus was a signal for a shift in British policy to-

wards the PLO. But diplomats here said they thought such hopes were premature.

American and British diplomats in the Middle East frequently confess in private that their governments' instructions on contacts with PLO leaders complicate their task of assessing developments in the area.

Mr. Craig's meeting with the PNC speaker came six days before the Palestinian Central Council, a 55-member body which acts as liaison between the PLO executive committee and the PNC, is due to meet to discuss Palestinian policy following the recent Middle East tour of U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

In London, a British Foreign Office spokesman said today: "British officials at all levels have met members of the PLO from time to time informally in the course of business."

"These contacts in no way imply recognition of the PLO and there is no change in our policy towards that organisation."

The British government maintains that it could not recognise the PLO while the organisation refused to accept the existence of the state of Israel.

Waldheim to discuss Rhodesia problem with British ministers

LONDON, Aug. 22 (R). — Prospects for a settlement of the Rhodesian independence dispute will dominate U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim's talks with British ministers here on Thursday, informed British sources said today.

Another key topic will be United States efforts for a resumption of the 1973 Geneva Middle East peace conference.

Mr. Waldheim is due here on Wednesday evening from Lagos after attending the United Nations action against apartheid conference there. His three-day London visit is part of his talks in the capitals of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council who have veto rights. They are the United States, the Soviet Union, France, Britain and China. Mr. Waldheim has just been to Moscow in early September.

The sources said Mr. Waldheim's talks here will also cover human rights, developments in Cyprus following the death of President Makarios and a host of political, economic and nuclear topics.

The sources said British ministers were specially interested in talking to Mr. Waldheim about the world economic situation in the light of the modest results of the recent "north-south" dialogue in Paris between the rich industrialised democracies and the poorer developing nations.

The north-south dialogue will be debated by the U.N. General Assembly for about a week before it starts its regular autumn session on Sept. 20.

On Rhodesia, British ministers will tell Mr. Waldheim about the new Anglo-American proposals for giving the breakaway British colony black majority rule and legal independence by the end of next year.

The sources said British Foreign Secretary Dr. David Owen and Mr. Andrew Young, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, are hoping to present the proposals to the leaders of the five black "front line" states in Lusaka or Dar Es Salaam later this month.

But until the proposals have been put they will not be published.

British and American officials have declined all comment on a statement by President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania on Saturday that Britain, the United States and the "front line" states were now agreed that the Rhodesian army would be dismantled as part of a Rhodesia independence settlement.

President Nyerere said the future of independent Zimbabwe (Rhodesia) must be based on the present army of the "patriotic front," whose guerrillas operate mainly from Mozambique and Zambia. These are two of the "front line" states along with Tanzania, Botswana and Angola.

But ministers of the white-minority Rhodesian government of Premier Ian Smith have said they would not agree to the patriotic front having a role in determining the country's future.

The Rhodesia issue is of special concern to Mr. Waldheim because of numerous U.N. resolutions, these have called for economic and other sanctions against Mr. Smith's government and majority rule, based on one-man-one-vote, and transfer of power from the 270,000 white minority to some six million blacks.

President of frontline states and nationalist leaders of the patriotic front are to hold a summit here on Saturday to discuss the latest Anglo-American proposals aimed at solving the Rhodesian independence dispute.

Diplomatic sources said here today frontline leaders of Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe patriotic front co-leaders, Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo would also hold talks with the British Foreign Secretary and the American Ambassador to the United Nations.

The sources said Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, who is chairman of the frontline states, wants to assess the general opinion of the nationalist leaders over the suggestion for the dismantling of Rhodesian forces prior to independence.

A spokesman for the British high commissioner said, "We are yet to receive an official notification on Dr. David Owen's arrival for yet another shuttle to Southern Africa."

Diplomatic sources said both Mr. Young and Dr. Owen were due to arrive here Friday.

With his troops fighting in the Ogaden and in the Red Sea province of Eritrea, Col. Mengistu called on "men, women, youths and the old" to help in what he called the country's life and death struggle.

He said in a broadcast that regular Somali soldiers aided by troops from Iraq and Syria had invaded the Ogaden desert and added that heavy fighting was also going on against secessionist forces in Eritrea.

Somalia says the Ogaden area is its rightful territory — the area was conquered by Ethiopia in the 1890s — but it denies that its troops are involved in the fighting. Somalia says guerrillas of the Western Somalia Liberation Front (WSLF) have conquered practically the whole area.

In Abu Dhabi yesterday a WSLF spokesman denied that Syrian and Iraqi troops were supporting the guerrillas. But he said, most Arab states were giving the guerrillas moral and material support.

Delegations from guerrillas on both Ethiopia's major battlefronts are at present visiting the United Arab Emirates.

According to the Qatar News Agency, representatives of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Eritrea arrived in Abu Dhabi yesterday and held talks today with UAE Foreign Ministry officials.

A WSLF delegation, led by Mr. Abdul Salam Mohammad Mahmoud, arrived on Saturday and also met Emirates officials.

Electric power restored to key Ethiopian town

NAIROBI, Aug. 22 (R). — Electricity has been restored and factories have reopened in the Ethiopian town of Dire Dawa after the biggest battle so far in the month-long war over the barren Ogaden region, diplomatic sources said today.

The sources in Addis Ababa said fighting around the town had died down, but they believed Somali forces were still in the mountains around Dire Dawa and nearby Harar or Djijiga, the only towns in the region still held by Ethiopians.

The Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) yesterday said that a huge Somali force with tanks and rockets and backed by MIG fighters tried last week to capture Dire Dawa, the third biggest town in Ethiopia and an important industrial and rail centre.

The report said that 650 soldiers, 500 Somalis and 150 Ethiopians died in the fighting and 800 were wounded.

The sources estimated that Dire Dawa is defended by 10,000 Ethiopian troops and militia and that the Somali attacking force was at least the same strength.

The ENA said that eight Soviet-built T-55 tanks and "numerous" smaller tanks were destroyed by the Ethiopian defenders and that a Somali MIG-21 fighter was shot down.

Observers in the Ethiopian capital said there was as yet no sign of the national mobilisation ordered on Saturday night by the head of state, Col. Mengistu Haile Mariam.

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Powder keg

The latest incidents in Lebanon in which several people were killed by sectarian violence in a hitherto quiet area -- since Kamal Junblatt's assassination at least -- have not only highlighted the fragility of the ceasefire in Lebanon but have brought certain unpleasant facts to the fore.

It would appear that the rightwing militias in Lebanon are arming and training new recruits at a rate that completely overshadows the reconstruction of the national army. This creates an explosive situation in itself -- the country's warring factions are obviously ready to resume fighting at the drop of a hat. The chances of the ceasefire lasting if the predominantly Syrian Arab peace-keeping force were to withdraw are nil.

Right now the "Lebanese Front" feels strong enough to deliver ultimatums to the Lebanese government; which is hardly surprising if the front's military strength has been growing all the time. The situation with leftwing militias seems to be the same. With an arms build-up on both sides, a resumption of warfare is a foregone conclusion given a single spark. This could come from south Lebanon, where Israel has kept the pot boiling with its military aid to rightwing villagers, its sporadic shelling of leftist and Palestinian positions and its brief incursions into Lebanese territory. The civil war in Lebanon would start off once again and with unprecedented ferocity unless there is a strong restraining influence. The Arab peace-keeping force has only clamped the lid on violence. It has not removed its causes. Even if the Lebanese army were fully reconstructed, it is unlikely to be more effective than the Arab peace force.

It is clear that Lebanon cannot be taken off the danger list until the warring factions in the country disarm -- which is most unlikely -- or until such time as they arrive at a settlement among themselves. The only feasible way out is therefore through a settlement among the Lebanese themselves, but that, as we have been told time and again, depends on an overall Middle East settlement, which in turn depends on Israel. The way it looks now, far from wanting to cool things down in Lebanon, Israel might well set off yet another Arab-Israeli conflagration by lighting a match to the powder keg in Lebanon. Those involved in securing a lasting Middle East settlement are engaged in a frantic race against time.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL DUSTOUR, on Monday, said that recent Israeli political moves have brought about an atmosphere which is sure to lead to a military confrontation. The Arabs had better realise this and act accordingly before it is too late, and before new tragedies befall us. The latest American peace initiative has shown Israeli logic to be "crooked" and this has led to an international isolation of a scale which Israeli leaders never before witnessed. Hence, Israel finds that it needs to make political and territorial changes in the region so as to create new bargaining conditions. Israel thinks that a war would do this quite aptly. The world is, thus, confronted with a threat to peace and good intentions and mild statements have no place anymore. But no matter what world leaders may decide to do, the Arabs must act quickly. The least we expect is a summit meeting devoted to putting the whole Arab Nation in readiness, by earmarking all potential and all possibilities to face up to the Israeli challenge.

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On the occasion of the National Day of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the Department of Culture and Arts, in cooperation with the Romanian embassy in Amman, is holding a Romanian photo exhibition under the patronage of the Minister of Culture and Youth Sharif Fawwaz Sharaf.

At the Haya Arts Centre.

Wednesday Aug. 24 until Friday Aug. 26 at 7.30 p.m.

Open invitation.

Arab envoys meet F.M. in Romania on Begin

BUCHAREST, Aug. 22 (JNA). — An official spokesman at the Jordanian embassy announced here today that Arab ambassadors to Romania met its foreign minister to enquire about the aim of Menachem Begin's visit to Romania on Aug. 25.

The Jordanian source said that the Romanian foreign minister affirmed his country's position on the Middle East problem.

Romania rejects the Israeli occupation of the occupied Arab lands and backs the national rights of the Palestinian and Arab people, he said.

The Romanian minister explained that his country will tell Begin that no one in the world accepts the continuation of Israel's present policy and that Israel should accept a just and peaceful settlement to the problem.

Schools start with shortage of textbooks

AMMAN (J.T.). — Government, private and religious schools opened for the 1977-78 academic year Saturday.

Many schools were unable to provide students with textbooks, but the Ministry of Education will remedy the situation within the next few days, sources close to the ministry stated.

Members of the English-speaking community in Amman, who have been enrolled at the American Community School, will attend classes from Sept. 19. The college offers an American-style education to international students in classes from kindergarten through to the ninth grade.

The International Community School, also known as the British School, will open for registration at the end of this month. The school provides a British-style education programme for children enrolled in classes from kindergarten to the sixth elementary level. Classes begin on Sept. 15.



Jordan free of cholera, health minister states

AMMAN (R.). — Acting Health Minister Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh Monday announced that Jordan is free of cholera, which recently appeared in Syria.

He said his ministry had taken all necessary measures to improve general sanitary conditions, continue water disinfection and ensure more stringent control of food production and the sale of fizzy water and food.

His ministry, in cooperation with other health organisations and departments, controls the situation, he added.

Dr. Naji Ayyash, the Director of Health Services in the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) said all refugee camps in Jordan are free of cholera.

All health sections in UNRWA have taken the necessary precautions in the camps, he added.

A number of cholera cases appeared last year.

Thermal station opens in September

AMMAN (JNA). — The opening of the Hussein Thermal Power Station will be celebrated on Sept. 20 under royal patronage, an authoritative source at the Jordan Electricity Authority said Monday.

The source said experiments on the station's two 33 MW thermal power units will be completed early in September.

The first stage of the project was completed last year at an estimated cost of JD 8 million.

The second stage, to be completed this year, will include an additional 33 MW thermal unit.

The third stage will see the addition of two 66 MW thermal units to start operating in 1980.

STOCK EXCHANGE DIRECTOR LEAVES FOR WASHINGTON

AMMAN (JNA). — The Director of Amman Stock Exchange, Dr. Hashem Sabbagh, left for Washington Sunday to prepare a study on regulations for the market based on European and Asian stock exchanges he has visited.

The study will be undertaken in cooperation with the International Finance Corporation.

Regulations for the stock exchange will follow those adopted by other stock exchanges, Dr. Sabbagh said Sunday. These regulations will govern the work of stockbrokers and organise the circulation of stocks and bonds.

Investment protection agreements discussed

AMMAN (JNA). — An ad hoc committee at the National Planning Council Monday discussed draft agreements to be concluded with Romania and France to protect investments against commercial dangers and prevention of tax duplication.

These agreements will boost trade relations and encourage joint ventures.

The committee includes representatives from the Ministries of Industry and Commerce and Finance, the National Planning Council and the Central Bank.

A similar agreement has been signed with West Germany.

Foreign diplomats hear Amman's view on Israeli policy

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim Monday briefed heads of foreign diplomatic missions in Jordan on the country's attitude towards the latest Israeli measures on colonisation and the forcing of Israeli services on the Arab population.

He also explained the serious implications of such a policy.

The minister emphasised that these decisions meant the application of Israeli law in the West Bank and Gaza, thus stripping municipalities of their powers. They would become administrative tools for the Israeli military governors, converting the Arab inhabitants into Israeli subjects enjoying

rights but deprived of any political rights.

He added that the enforcement of such measures was the culmination of Israeli expansionist goals to annex and implement Israeli policy in these areas.

Mr. Ibrahim called on the world community to condemn such regressive actions, demand their immediate halt and bring pressure to bear on Israel to put an end to its disregard of the international will.

He thanked the member states of the European Economic Community for their rejection of the Israeli decisions. He also praised the stands of other nations, who rejected Israeli settlement in the occupied Arab lands.

The minister handed the diplomats a memorandum on the dimensions and dangers of the Israeli decisions.

The Foreign Ministry Monday received a letter from the EEC, which rejected the Israeli settlement policy.

The EEC also reiterated its call for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East on the basis of the illegality of annexing land by force and the need for Israeli withdrawal to pre-1967 borders.

Chile sends silver jubilee message to King

AMMAN (JNA). — The Chilean ambassador to Jordan Monday stated that he had delivered to His Majesty King Hussein a message of good wishes on the occasion of his silver jubilee from Chilean President Augusto Pinochet.

In a statement to reporters, the Chilean ambassador said that he had expressed the pride of the Chilean government and people in the close cooperation existing between the two countries. He also presented the King with a token gift for his silver jubilee.

The Chilean ambassador said that his country looks with concern and anxiety on the lack of progress towards a just and permanent peace in the Middle East. It is the duty of the world community to solve this question realistically without inflicting any harm on any party in the conflict, he added.

United Nations Resolution 242 contains the essential elements for a settlement, he stressed.

Firm offers new Aqaba container service

AMMAN (JNA). — The Free Zone Company has received an offer from a European shipping firm to run a goods service to the Gulf states and Iraq through the Aqaba free zone for 20,000 containers in 1977.

An authoritative source at the Free Zone Company said the offer would ensure additional work for the port, the Maritime Corporation and the free zone estimated at no less than 400,000 tons annually.

The offer will also boost employment and earnings for the port, the Maritime Corporation and the free zone.

The firm stipulated that it wants permission to transport the containers to or from ships, or to the free zone, using a special crane to be brought over by the company.

It also wants to transfer containers from the free zone at Aqaba to Iraq, Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states in its own specially-equipped lorries.

Mining firm to supply clay to Lebanon

AMMAN (JNA). — The Public Mining Company has entered into an agreement with a number of Lebanese pottery firms for the supply of dry clay from the Mahls area.

Company sources said the Jordanian clay is suitable for pottery manufacture, such as sanitary utensils and liquid batteries.

\$500,000 donated to liberation movements in Africa

AMMAN (JNA). — Jordan has paid \$500,000 as the first instalment of a \$1 million contribution to African liberation movements, the Jordan News Agency reported Sunday.

The sum was pledged at the recent Afro-Arab summit in Cairo.

NATIONAL NOTES

AMMAN. — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Viceroys, Monday sent a cable of good wishes to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu on the occasion of his country's national day.

AMMAN. — The University of Jordan and Yarmuk University Monday decided to set up a joint committee to study the situation of higher education in the occupied Arab lands and prepare a paper on Israeli measures against such education.

AMMAN. — Jordan and the Philippines have resumed contacts to conclude a bilateral air transport agreement. A Philippines civil aviation delegation visited Jordan in January for similar talks.

AMMAN. — The director of an illiteracy eradication programme in Saudi Arabia arrived here Sunday on a short visit to get acquainted with the methods used by Jordan to educate people.

AMMAN. — The rate of illiteracy has decreased to only 32 per cent of the total population, the lowest rate among Arab countries, a Department of Statistics release said Monday.

AMMAN. — The Director of the Department of Statistics, Mr. Shuja' Al Assad, Monday received a U.N. expert on agricultural surveys, Dr. Mustapha Madani Al Dessouqi, to discuss the results of the agricultural survey undertaken here last year, in particular on the number of holdings and Jordanians working in agriculture.

AMMAN. — A delegation from the Press Association, composed of the owner of the weekly Al Liwa, Hassan Al Tel, and Al Sha'bi editor Abdullah Hamdan, left here for Moscow Monday on a two-week visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Higher Press Council.

AMMAN. — The Cooperative Organisation will buy 25 plastic houses at a cost of JD 39,000 to be distributed to the cooperatives in the Jordan Valley. They will be used for agricultural experiments, a cooperative official at the organisation said Monday.

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With rebellions easing, Chad turns towards the problem in the north

The complicated dispute between Chad and Libya is causing anxiety in Africa and the danger of conflict between the two countries is real. Libya claims a northern strip of Chad as its territory and occupies it. Chad has been preoccupied with three rebellions on its hands, but now only two of them seem to be resolved and the government is turning its attention to Libya.

By Augustine Oyowe

LONDON (Gemin) — When in 1935, French Prime Minister Pierre Laval ceded northern Chad to Italian leader Benito Mussolini in what was known as the "Treaty of Abysinia", Mussolini called the area a "lunar landscape". Laval for his part asserted that the Italian leader would never grow a "dozen bananas in the territory".

Such scathing statements are recalled by the attitude of the Chad authorities to the Aouzou strip since it was occupied by Libyan forces in June 1973.

President Tombalbaye, who was assassinated, was reported at one time to be prepared to recognise Libya's right over the territory in exchange for Libya's support against rebels in Chad. And the military regime that came to power in 1975 had also adopted a low-key approach to the problem. Col. Mamari Djime, Chad's Vice Chairman of the Supreme

Military Council, visited Tripoli and on his return to N'djamena said that the issue would be settled by dialogue -- last April the Foreign Minister, Lt. Col. Wadal Abdelkader Kamougue, referred to it as "a minor problem which will be settled through negotiations in a spirit of mutual understanding."

But just before the OAU summit in Libreville, Gabon, early in July, Chad President Felix Malloum formally accused Libya of occupying parts of the Tibesti desert and said his country's "national independence and territorial integrity were gravely threatened."

Why has this issue suddenly become acrimonious and contentious at a time when Africa's attention is drawn to serious conflicts in other parts of the continent?

Although suspicion that the region contains rich minerals may have played a role, there are two reasons why Chad believes the time has come for action. An obvious one is that the present relaxed atmosphere in Chad itself is enabling the government to look closer at the implications of Libya's Aouzou occupation. Chad's military regime inherited three rebellions: One by Touhou rebels of the Tibesti mountains in the north, who want independence; one by the FROLINAT movement under Abba Siddick, who opposed Tombalbaye and refused to accept the military regime until democratic reforms had been carried out; and a third by the rebel FTL army, once under the leadership of a Gen. Barghaili.

Although a Siddick spokesman claimed last November in Algiers that FROLINAT -- the parent organisation of the Tibesti group -- had been reconstituted, Siddick himself is believed to be in hiding in Libya and some members of his government have joined forces with the Touhou.

FROLINAT is still vocal, but not as active as the Touhou rebels and the government can be said now to have only one rebellion to combat. The Tibesti mountain guerrillas are operating several kilometres beyond the strip occupied by Libyan forces and are a great obstacle to ending the Libyan presence. Changes in the movement in the past nine months have been mainly on this issue of Libyan occupation.

Romania celebrates National Day

On August 23, 1944 the Romanian people won their national independence. Now, 33 years later, Romanians celebrate their progress in economic development and expansion.

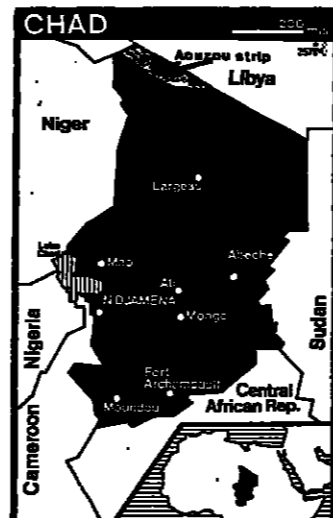
Highlights of Romania's economic growth in 1976, the five year plan, were the growth in material production increase in national income and higher economic efficiency. Romania's total industrial output at the level of 1938 was turned out in 11 days in 1976, by 1980 it will take 7 days and by 1990 -- 3 days.

Referring to the Romanian position concerning the solution of the Middle East crisis, President Nicolae Ceausescu, in his recent expose declared: "In the realization of a durable and just peace in the Middle East, Israel must withdraw its troops from the Arab territories occupied following the 1967 war; the just solution of the Palestinian ques-

tion by ensuring the Palestinian people their legitimate interests and aspirations -- inclusive of establishing their own national state -- and ensuring the independence and sovereignty of all the states in the region." Romania has participated with several Arab countries in the development of their natural resources. After the visit of His Majesty King Hussein to Romania in 1974 and the visit of President Nicolae Ceausescu to Jordan in 1975, Romanian-Jordanian relations in all fields have developed very quickly. Romanian specialists have built for Jordan a 45 km. crude oil pipeline and now participate in building the 3rd extension to the refinery at Zarka. Romanian exports to Jordan include meat, eggs, cheese, tractors and cars. Romanian facilities teach more than 1,500 Jordanian students and this year about 500

new Jordanian students will go to Romania to study.

Several important industrial units have been built in Egypt -- the chlorosodium product factory, which is the largest in Africa and the Mideast, the phosphate extraction and dressing development of Hamrawein, at the El Nasr works in Helwan; in Syria -- the refinery at Banyas with a capacity of 6 million tons of crude yearly the tri-superphosphate factory at Homs, the 45 hp. tractor mounting line at Aleppo, the Raikha irrigation system in the Euphrates middle basin; in Algeria -- building operations on the dam on the K'sob river; in Morocco -- the harbour at Nador; in Tunisia -- a large complex of phosphate exploitation at M'rta; in Iraq -- the cement mill, modern highways and schools; in Libya -- blocks of flats and highways; in Sudan -- the Parliament House and a cotton mill.



Hissene Habre, the hardliner who held French archaeologist Francoise Claustre hostage for more than two years, was ousted as leader late last year because he opposed Libya and was attacking Libyan soldiers. In a recent interview with a French journalist, Goukouni Oueddei, the present leader claimed Habre was on the point of surrendering unconditionally to the Chad authorities. He swore he would never accept the Libyan occupa-

ECONOSCOPE By Jawad Ahmad

Enjoy the holy jolly season

This is the month of Ramadan, when every muslim, mature and healthy, is supposed to refrain from eating, drinking, smoking, etc. from dawn to sunset. However, as a religious season, people over time have developed certain consumption habits which are Ramadan-specific. The consumption curve and even utility curves take different shapes. It is believed that because people eat fewer meals, their total consumption decreases. This is not the case. Contrary to religious teachings, Ramadan becomes a season of food enjoyment. By not eating for something like 15 hours, people develop the appetite for food. Moreover, Ramadan as a month has a different budget allocation which is higher than the average. Therefore, the utility curve goes up in this month. The price quantity curve (or demand curves) usually have a steeper shape indicating lower elasticity on every point. In other words, people buy the food regardless of its price. Like most seasons in the world, Ramadan

has its own foods. For instance people consume more Kamaruddin (apricot paste), tamarind juice, pastries and nuts. You just cannot imagine a house with fasting people -- or pretentiously fasting -- that does not demand these things. Katayef (sweet rolls) are only consumed in Ramadan. The demand for them shoots up like the demand for turkeys on Thanksgiving Day. Ramadan also ends with the Biram, a religious holiday which is the counterpart to Christmas. Of course on that day the kids must be fed and dressed. Relatives visit each other with gifts and donations. Thus, expenditure on this festivity goes up way beyond the usual average. Certainly, seasons have their own consumption habits. Economists have not given it sufficient attention. Businessmen, however, have realised its commercial viability and they are making millions out of it. Actually, in some countries, businessmen are responsible for the propagation of certain religious and national holidays.

Libya, on the other hand, still gives logistic support to the rebels and obviously knows Touhou feelings about its Aouzou occupation. Why is Libya still uncompromising? This makes for the second reason why Chad believes now is the time for action. The military regime realises it is making no headway in negotiations. The issue has been presented to the U.N. by Chad's ambassador and during the recent OAU conference.

Even before the OAU conference, Nigeria had been mediating between Chad and the rebels on the one hand and Libya and Chad on the other -- an outcome of a meeting in Maiduguri, in Nigeria's Borno State last September between Nigerian Head of State Gen. Obasanjo and Malloum. Malloum had been baffled by Qadhafi's obstinacy, especially in the light of the constant exchange of top-level official visits between the two countries and their increasing economic cooperation. But recently Malloum put his finger on the root of the problem when he said that Qadhafi had changed his attitude to him since his visits to Egypt and Sudan -- countries hostile to Qadhafi. Qadhafi is not someone who easily gives up an idea once he has latched onto it, and the solution, therefore, may now well lie in the military field. If mediation can end Chad's rebellion the way might be open to a concerted military approach to the Libyan presence in the Aouzou strip. Currently, fighting is intensifying between government forces and the rebels in the Tibesti region and guerrilla warfare being so often an "inter-

terminable warfare" a settlement is highly desirable. Meanwhile, Libya continues its claim that the area its forces occupy is part of southern Libya, and it is not clear that Chad has the military capability to push back the Libyans. Libya is superior in men and materials, but the assured support of Egypt and Sudan might help Chad to succeed. There are now reports of massive military aid to Chad from the Soviet Union. Chad also has a defence agreement with France, and the U.S. has said it would supply defensive equipment.

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<p>THE FLYING CARPET CLUB</p> <p>opens for lunch an elegant oriental BUFFET</p> <p>TEL: 6181 AMMAN</p>	<p>FINLANDIA</p> <p>Our fine products made by experienced Finnish craftsmen include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Furniture for the home and office. Ceramic dishes and tableware. Handcrafted jewelry. <p>3rd Circle, Jabal Amman, Next to New Insurance Bldg. Tel. 4282</p>	<p>Scandinavian Show Room</p> <p>The luxury furniture for every taste and pocket. Call Customer Service - Tel. 65880 P.O. Box 234 - Amman, Jordan</p>	<p>S.M. SILVER MARKET</p> <p>OUR SUPERMARKET BOASTS A LARGE VARIETY OF THE FINEST IMPORTED FOODS. WE ALSO HAVE HOME DELIVERY SERVICE. JABAL AMMAN, 5th Circle, Tel. 41301</p>	<p>FLOWERS PLANTS</p> <p>TALAL AGRICULTURE CO.</p> <p>Gardening contractors. All kinds of flowers for all occasions. Decorative plants for indoors & outdoors imported from Italy & Holland. Plastic vases. Home delivered. Tel. 6800 AMMAN</p>	<p>SATELLITE RENT-A-CAR</p> <p>BRAND NEW 1977 MODELS. TEL. 25767</p>
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Crude oil pricing hurts Kuwaiti market

KUWAIT, Aug. 22 (R). — Kuwait needs to reduce the price of its crude oil by at least 10 U.S. cents a barrel in order to retain its traditional markets, the newspaper Al-Siyassah said here yesterday.

Quoting oil company sources, it said the Kuwait government was told by its major customers in recent consultations that only such a reduction would allow Kuwait to maintain the competitiveness of its oil against similar oils produced in the Gulf region.

Kuwait sells its crude oil at \$12.37 a barrel. But with world demand low for heavy crude oils such as Kuwait's, its production has fallen to an average of 1.6 million barrels a

day compared with its two million barrel capacity.

Al-Siyassah said that Exxon, among major companies which buy Kuwaiti oil, had completely stopped taking Kuwaiti oil and Gulf Oil was lifting only the minimum allowed under its contract with the government which provided for a 12 per cent margin.

The newspaper did not say how many barrels Exxon normally lifts from Kuwait, but Gulf Oil has contracted to buy 500,000 barrels a day over a five-year period.

Kuwait raised the question of heavy crude prices at a conference in Stockholm last month of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), arguing that the for-

mula under which the prices of different grades of crude oil are set discriminated against Kuwaiti oil.

A ministerial committee was formed of the states affected by the declining demand for heavy crude oils. It met immediately after the OPEC conference ended.

Kuwaiti officials said yesterday the committee, formed of the oil ministers of Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela, had failed to find a solution to the problem.

Commenting on press reports that the committee was due to meet shortly in one of the Gulf states to resume its discussions, the officials said there were no plans for further meetings of the committee.

Syria conditionally backs Arab purchase of Tapline

BEIRUT, Aug. 22 (AFP). — The Lebanese idea that the four Arab states crossed by the Tapline should acquire the oil pipeline received qualified support from Syria, a newspaper interview here showed.

Issa Darwish, Syrian Oil Minister, said his country was not against the idea provided Saudi Arabia continued to use the pipeline. He was giving an interview to the paper Alam Al-Nift ("The World of Oil").

The Tapline takes crude oil from Saudi Arabia as far as the Lebanese Mediterranean terminal at Zahran. It is owned by the American Consortium Aramco, but Beirut press reports have said Lebanon suggests it should be acquired by the states it crosses: Saudi Arabia, Syria, Jordan and

Lebanon.

The Syrian minister suggested a similar arrangement for the pipeline of the former Ira Petroleum Company (IPC) which takes oil via Syria to Arids terminal in North Lebanon.

France, Pakistan sign job agreement

PARIS, Aug. 22, (R). — France and Pakistan have signed an agreement for the employment of trained Pakistani manpower by French engineering companies operating in the Middle East and other foreign countries, officials said today.

The agreement was signed at the Pakistani Embassy here on Friday by Gen. Raymond Sauvanet, Head of the Technical Assistance Division of the French engineering concern Sotetec (Societe d'Etudes Techniques et d'Entreprises Generales), and Mr. M. A. Karim Iqbal, Managing Director of the Pakistani Ministry of Labour and Manpower's Overseas Employment Corporation Ltd., they said.

A large number of Pakistanis are already employed in the Middle East, United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia, besides countries in Europe and America.

The Pakistani government has been making efforts for the proper training and placement of such Pakistanis, especially to make them "free from exploitation by unscrupulous private employment agencies and receive more qualified jobs after proper technical training", Pakistan officials said.

A few years ago, 350 unskil-

led Pakistanis who arrived here with the false promise of easy jobs, found life tougher than they expected and faced expulsion from France.

Most of them came here illegally, lured by advertisements and articles in Pakistani newspapers which said no formalities were needed to find work in France.

Soon after their arrival, they discovered that the French government would not grant them the work permits they needed to stay.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

One sterling	= 1.7396 / 98	U.S. dollars
One dollar	= 2.3220 / 30	West German marks
	2.4525 / 35	Dutch guilders
	2.4110 / 25	Swiss francs
	35.56 / 59	Belgian francs
	4.9025 / 40	French francs
	882.40 / 60	Italian lire
	266.65 / 75	Japanese yen
	4.4030 / 60	Swedish crowns
	5.2790 / 2820	Norwegian crowns
	5.9880 / 9910	Danish crowns

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

Jordanian fils	Buying/Selling
Saudi riyal	93.0/93.5
Lebanese pound	105.6/106.4
Syria	81.5/81.9
Iraqi dinar	975.00/990.00
Kuwaiti dinar	1140.00/1145.00
Egyptian pound	462.5/470.0
Libyan dinar	700.00/720.00
UAE dirham	572.00/577.00
U.K. sterling	329.00/331.00
U.S. dollar	141.40/142.30
French franc	67.00/67.40
Swiss franc	136.10/136.90
Italy lira (for every 100)	37.20/37.40

WALL STREET REPORT

Not received

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Foreign investment -- Kuwait's new future

★ KUWAIT, Aug. 22 (R). — Kuwait's income from abroad might in five or six years' time equal its income from oil, the newspaper Al-Siyassah said here yesterday. It said that an income of 400 million dinars (about £200 million) was achieved last year from about a third of Kuwait's total foreign investments. Growth along the same lines would bring in for Kuwait a fixed income equivalent to its oil revenues in five to six years from now, the sources were reported as saying. This would ensure an alternative income for the government which now depends almost entirely on oil for its revenue. It would also protect the country against future oil price fluctuations and the possibilities of a halt or decline in oil production, the newspaper said.

Saudi Arabian may buy the "France"

★ PARIS, Aug. 22 (R). — A Saudi Arabian businessman is negotiating to buy the laid-up luxury liner France, the world's longest passenger ship, for use as a Red Sea floating hotel, French Supply Minister Jean-Pierre Fourcade said yesterday. The 68,000-ton France which is 315 metres in length, has been idle and laid up at the port of Le Havre since it was withdrawn from trans-Atlantic service in 1974 because it was unprofitable. The liner was built in 1961 at a cost of 485 million francs (\$91 million). Mr. Fourcade told Radio Luxembourg that "agreement in principle" had been reached with the Saudi Arabian, who was not named, but he had not yet given the final go-ahead for the deal.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market closed easier Monday in light trading, dealers said. At 15:00 hrs. the F.T. index was down 3.8 at 453.9.

Government bonds recovered around 1/4 and closed up to 3/8 lower on shorts.

Equities rallied narrowly during the afternoon session in new account dealings to show falls of up to 5p. among leaders, Canadian stocks lost ground.

Price of gold closed in London Monday at \$144.10/oz.

HORSE RACING RESULTS

FIRST RACE
FOR LOCAL COUNTRY HORSES,
BEGINNERS
DISTANCE: 1,400 METRES

THE FIRST: TISLAM
Owner: Rashid Odeh
Time: 1.40.1 minute

THE SECOND: FITNIH
Owner: Ghalib Haddadin
AND: NIMIR EL FALA
Owner: Wassef Bisharat

WIN: 200 fils — JD 3.8
TWIN: 600 fils — JD 5

FOURTH RACE
FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES
DISTANCE: 2,000 METRES

THE FIRST: JOHAR AMMAN
Owner: H.H. Sharif Jamil Ibn Naser
Time: 2.22.6 minutes

THE SECOND: EL HABBAB
Owner: Tawfiq Ksous
THE THIRD: BOSHRAN
Owner: Khalil Borqan

WIN: 200 fils — 250 fils
TWIN: 500 fils — JD 1.3

SECOND RACE
FOR BEGINNER HORSE
DISTANCE: 1,000 METRES

THE FIRST: RADWAH
Owner: H.H. Sharif Hussein Ibn Naser
Time: 1.10.4 minute

THE SECOND: BAHIR EL ARAB
Owner: Ismail Salem
THE THIRD: YAMAMEH
Owner: Faiek Kawar

WIN: 200 fils — 300 fils
TWIN: 500 fils — JD 5



THIRD RACE
FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES
DISTANCE: 1,600 METRES

THE FIRST: NASER
Owner: H.H. Sharif Naser Ibn Jamil
Time: 1.50 minute

THE SECOND: RABIAH
Owner: H.H. Sharif Naser Ibn Jamil

THE THIRD: KWAIES
Owner: Tawfiq Ksous

WIN: 200 fils — 400 fils
TWIN: 500 fils — 600 fils

FIFTH RACE
FOR SECOND CLASS HORSES
DISTANCE: 2,000 METRES

THE FIRST: M. DINA
Owner: Wassef Bisharat
Time: 2.20.6 minutes

THE SECOND: WADI AMAL
Owner: Ali A. Soukout
THE THIRD: EL SABIK
Owner: H.H. Sheikh Khalifeh Ibn Hamad Al Thani

WIN: 200 fils — 220 fils
TWIN: 500 fils — JD 6.5

Crossroads...

Throughout history, certain geographical locations have developed into natural crossroads for the world's commerce. One such was Petra, the ancient Jordanian city which was an important junction for business dealings and information exchange in the Middle East over a period of several thousand years.

Today, when other types of crossroads are needed to handle the enormous quantities of data involved in international communications, the historical pattern is being repeated. Singapore, London, Vienna, Rome, Montreal, Tokyo... all have become key centres for the interchange of information. These, and some thirty-five other cities around the globe, are the sites of Philips DS-714 stored-program controlled telegraph, data, and telex switching systems.

1. The treasury of Petra, the "rose-red city", centre of spice and camel trading in the Middle East since 3000 B.C.
2. The Western Union International gateway centre in New York City, the world's largest and most advanced international communications switching facility, incorporates three DS-714 computer-directed systems for public telegraphy and leased channel network control, and a 9000-circuit telex switch which provides automatic high-speed connections between subscribers in Europe, the United Kingdom and the United States.
3. Closely related to the DS-714 systems in service is another crossroads - the Philips international training school in Hilversum, where students from all over the world are instructed in the operating, maintenance and programming techniques which support the systems after installation.

Philips Telecommunicatie Industrie bv, P.O. Box 32, Hilversum, The Netherlands.

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PHILIPS

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 23, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A most interesting time of changes, new beginnings. Avoid getting involved in some confusing situation that can bring adverse results unless care is used with all facts and figures concerned. Some long-time ambitions can be attained now if looked at from a fresh and new angle. Be outgoing.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Plan to add new interests to current ones and become more affluent, interesting. Put hunches to work if you are not sure how to proceed.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Make the collections that are possible and due and pay bills without delay. Do whatever will bring true rapport between you and the one you love. Avoid one who has an axe to grind.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Try to understand better what your associates desire of you and state your own expectations as well. A situation arises which shows you how to handle some civic matter well. Be active.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) First be sure you have all the facts and figures; then you can get your work done properly. A more mature person will assist you if you contact early.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) You can be happy at the amusements you like with congenials so make plans early for such. A special thought for your mate brings good results. Avoid one who could bring you trouble.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Plan how best to handle those who dwell with you so that your lives are more ideal. Invite an important person to your home. Avoid the temptation to overspend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Stop deliberating so much and put your ideas in operation since you can accomplish a good deal thereby. Go after the information you need.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Concentrate on adding to present assets instead of depleting what you have, spending foolishly. Listen to what a money expert says.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can advance more quickly if you do those things at which you are most proficient. Enjoy company of a good friend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Go to the right sources for information you need and then use it wisely. Show true affection for a loved one. Take no chances with reputation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Take time to help friends with their problems and gain support yourself. Sociability is the keynote, but after your work is done.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Contact powerful persons you know and gain their aid for your projects, interests. Avoid one who could lead you in the wrong direction.

PEANUTS

PEANUTS
 I'D SURE LIKE TO KNOW WHAT THIS FUTURE WIFE OF YOURS LOOKS LIKE
 SHE HAS BEAUTIFUL BROWN EYES... A FANTASTIC SMILE...
 AND A CUTE LITTLE NOSE JUST LIKE YOURS!
 THAT'S THE ONLY WAY TO HANDLE A QUESTION LIKE THAT!

ANDY GAPP

ANDY GAPP
 KNOCK KNOCK
 THAT'LL BE YOUR GIRL FRIEND I TOLD HER I WANTED TO HAVE A WORD WITH HER
 NOT GETTIN' THE BOXING GLOVES OUT, I OPE—
 I'M A LADY—
 HOW CAN YOU PULL SOMEBODY'S HAIR OUT WITH THEM THINGS ON—?

MUTT & JEFF

MUTT & JEFF
 HERE'S A NICE PAIR OF DRAPES!
 YES, BUT I WONDER HOW THEY'LL LOOK HANGING UP!
 I DON'T KNOW—THEY JUST DON'T LOOK RIGHT!
 MISS, WHAT YOU NEED IS A BALANCE!
 HMMM...
 MAKE UP YOUR MIND, WILL YOU!!!

THE FLINTSTONES

THE FLINTSTONES
 THE CHECK IS \$4.45...
 DON'T FORGET THE TIP!
 ...I'LL DIVIDE BY THREE!
 IT'S \$1.65 APiece, INCLUDING THE TIP!.....

GORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
 © 1977 by Chicago Tribune

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠ J ♣ AKQJ ♣ AKQ73 ♠ AQ8
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 2 ♣ Pass 2 ♣ Pass
 3 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass

What do you bid now?
 A.—Your partner's bidding has not been exactly to your liking. However, you have a very good hand indeed and your jack of spades is a valuable filler, so slam is still a live possibility. The simplest way to investigate the possibilities is by showing your fragment with a bid of four clubs. Even if partner can do no more than return to four spades, you should make one last effort by raising to five spades.

Q.2—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠ 10962 ♣ KQ1074 ♣ 863 ♠ A
 The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South West
 1 ♣ Pass 1 ♣ Pass
 1 NT Pass ?

What action do you take?
 A.—It does not look as if the hand is going anywhere, so we do not blame you if you elected to pass. However, you rate to take more tricks at a suit contract than at no trump because of the unbalanced nature of your hand. Since your heart suit is reasonably robust, we suggest a rebid of two hearts.

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
 ♠ A ♣ AK17 ♣ KJ5 ♣ 107652
 The bidding has proceeded:
 North East South West
 Pass 1 ♣ Pass 1 NT
 Pass 2 ♣ ?

What action do you take?
 A.—Double. Since you did not double one heart for takeout, this double is for penalties. You can expect to take five or six tricks in your own hand, and the auction suggests that partner has a card or two to put icing on the cake.

Q.4—Four no trump. This is the ideal time for Blackwood. If partner shows two aces and a king, we would gamble on the grand slam, since his king is probably in diamonds. However, we would bid seven clubs, not seven diamonds. Partner surely has long clubs, and it is just possible that you have a trump loser in diamonds. In clubs, your hearts should provide a parking place for one of partner's diamonds.

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
 ♠ 7 ♣ KQ1062 ♣ AQ84 ♣ AK5
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 1 ♣ 1 ♣ 2 ♣ 2 ♣
 3 ♣ Pass 3 ♣ Pass
 4 ♣ Pass 4 ♣ Pass

What do you bid now?
 A.—Four no trump. This is the ideal time for Blackwood. If partner shows two aces and a king, we would gamble on the grand slam, since his king is probably in diamonds. However, we would bid seven clubs, not seven diamonds. Partner surely has long clubs, and it is just possible that you have a trump loser in diamonds. In clubs, your hearts should provide a parking place for one of partner's diamonds.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South with 40 on score you hold:
 ♠ A965 ♣ AQ852 ♣ AQ73
 The bidding has proceeded:
 South West North East
 1 ♣ Pass 1 NT Pass
 2 ♣ Pass 2 NT Pass ?

What do you bid now?
 A.—Pass, before you get into trouble. Partner's bidding suggests that he has length and strength in clubs, so any effort to "improve" the contract courts disaster.

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DENMARK
 Fuchsel
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THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes

PROVERB
 The winners of the great wars were usually the losers in the long run.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
 by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MOCEA
 O _ _ _ _

KICHT
 I _ _ _ _

TOXICE
 O _ _ _ _

BIMBIE
 O _ _ _ _

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A _ _ _ _ _

(Answers tomorrow)

Sunday's Jumbles: SYNOD PAYEE WEAKEN VELVET
 Answer: Permanent, no doubt—for mermaids— WAVES

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:
 6:00 Quran
 6:05 Cartoons
 6:30 News family Robinson
 6:50 News in Arabic

Channel 3:
 7:30 Jordanian artists
 8:30 Arabic series

RADIO JORDAN

7:40 Breakfast show
 7:40 News
 7:40 News reports
 8:00 Morning show
 11:00 Crystal pyramid
 12:00 Pop session
 13:00 News summary
 13:05 Pop session
 14:00 News
 14:40 Music

BBC RADIO

GMT
 05:00 News: 24 hours
 05:30 Sarah Ward
 05:45 The World Today
 06:00 News: Press Review
 06:30 Folk and Country
 06:50 News: 24 hours
 07:00 Sarah Ward
 07:45 Black British White Br.
 08:15 Short Story
 08:30 Talking about Music
 08:45 News: U.K. Press Review
 09:00 Financial News
 09:10 Look Ahead
 09:20 What's New
 10:15 Lister 77
 10:30 Sportswomen of the Week
 11:00 News: News about Britain
 11:15 The Strangest Incident in My Life
 12:00 Good Vibrations
 12:15 Sports Roundup
 12:45 News: 24 hours
 13:00 The Elton John Story

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:
 8:00 Bangkok, Bahrain
 8:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
 8:15 Kuwait (KAC)
 8:30 Doha, Kuwait (BA)
 8:30 Bahrain (BD)
 11:00 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)
 11:25 Kuwait (KAC)
 12:35 Riyadh (SD)
 12:35 Tripoli (LA)
 14:30 New York
 14:45 Dhahran (SD)
 14:00 London
 17:45 Copenhagen, Vienna
 18:00 Madrid, Athens
 18:00 Paris, Rome
 18:15 Frankfurt
 18:30 Beirut (MEA)
 18:45 Beirut
 20:00 Amsterdam, Athens
 21:00 Jordan
 21:30 Abu Dhabi
 24:00 Cairo
 06:30 Rome (AZ)
 06:30 Jeddah (SQ)

Departures:
 8:45 Beirut (MEA)
 8:50 Frankfurt
 9:30 Dhahran (SD)
 10:15 Kuwait (KAC)
 10:30 London (BA)
 11:00 Geneva, Paris, Amsterdam
 11:45 Athens (GA)
 12:45 Kuwait (KAC)
 14:30 Riyadh (SD)
 14:30 Tripoli (LA)
 16:00 Damascus, Beirut
 17:30 Baghdad
 19:00 Cairo
 20:00 Abu Dhabi
 20:30 Bahrain, Bratislava
 21:00 Jeddah
 22:30 Kuwait, Doha
 22:35 Doha, Muscat
 01:18 Doha (AZ)
 05:30 Jeddah (SQ)

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 First aid, fire, police " 3111
 Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) " 87111-8
 Municipal water service (emergency) " 87111-8
 Najla, rowing patrol rescue police, (English) " 21111, 2277
 open 21 hours a day for emergency help " 52280
 Airport information (Arabic) " 52280

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American Centre (LBS) Tel. 41520
 Polish Centre " 36142-8
 French Cultural Centre " 37980
 Goethe Institute " 41888
 Syrian Cultural Centre " 42888
 Amman Municipal Library " 36111

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Signal
- Part of be
- Choice
- Milk glass
- Max's name
- Supervise
- Alliance
- Revise
- Blitting remark
- Dog of mixed breed
- Algonquian
- Center of attention
- Young Sawyer
- Sheriff's men
- Alan Alda is one
- Appropriate
- Fatally
- Equivalence
- Biblical character
- Tennis stroke
- Positive entertainment
- Bay
- Pope's residence
- Dill
- Cabinet
- Former
- Plunger
- Grain
- Terror
- Repartee
- Psuedonym
- Fined
- Cracked material
- Counting frame
- Reverts
- Freedom of access
- Ignited
- Source of opium
- Marine zoophyte
- Toper
- Youngster
- Friendly
- Cigar
- Three-legged stand
- German silver
- Sweetheart
- Harness racing horse
- Wing-shaped
- Wife of a riyah
- Demerit
- Summer on the Seine
- Cap

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Rhodesian lake resort struck by rocket fire

SALISBURY, Aug. 22 (R). — Rhodesia's lakeside resort town of Kariba was bombarded with 20 to 30 rockets from Zambia last night but no casualties or serious damage were reported, police said today.

The 25-minute attack was the second on Kariba in two months. Some people were injured in the first attack.

A crowded cinema was evacuated and people living in Kariba Heights, the town's hill-top centre, were moved to the outskirts of town until the attack ended.

Rhodesian security forces returned the fire.

Eye-witnesses said the rockets appeared to have been launched from the same site as

the last attack against Kariba on June 4, from 10 km. away on the Zambian side of Lake Kariba.

After the attack, which began about 8 p.m., holidaymakers crowded into the local casino and hotel bars.

Tension along the border has heightened since President Kenneth Kaunda put Zambia on a war footing with Rhodesia on May 16.

Zambia-based nationalist guerrillas have been blamed for repeated rocket, mortar and machine-gun attacks on Victoria Falls, on the Zambezi river border, but Rhodesia has said Zambian troops are responsible for other attacks.

The main battle zone in the five-year-old guerrilla war against the white minority govern-

ment here remains the eastern border region with Mozambique.

Military headquarters here announced yesterday that 16 Africans, including women children, were killed by guerrillas in an attack on a white-owned farm in eastern Rhodesia.

Meanwhile the vice president of Bishop Abel Muzorewa's United African National Council (UANC) resigned Sunday amid indications he would join the Bishop's rival, the Rev. Ndaningi Sithole, in trying to form a new Rhodesian nationalist organisation.

Dr. Elliott Gabellah, in a statement read to Reuters office here, said he was leaving the UANC because he wanted to work more effectively for "national unity" as Rhodesia moves away from white minority rule.

He is the fifth member of Bishop Muzorewa's executive to quit in recent weeks. The others, including national party Chairman Moton Malinga and Secretary for External Affairs Chakanyuka Chikosi, all said the UANC was powerless to create unity.

They were all expected to join Mr. Sithole who told Reuters Sunday he had begun informal talks with dissident members of the UANC, black businessmen and professional men who he said wanted to see a united nationalist front in settlement talks.



Curfew reimposed in Sri Lanka

COLOMBO, Aug. 22 (AFP). — Opposition leader Appali Amirthalingam today requested the prime minister to declare a state of emergency in Sri Lanka.

His request came as the government reimposed a nationwide curfew from eight o'clock tonight till 4 a.m. tomorrow.

The government decided to reimpose the curfew only hours after a 35-hour curfew, clamped during the weekend, was lifted this morning.

This followed a briefing given to the Prime Minister J. R. Jayewardene this morning by the services chiefs and the inspector general of police on the situation in the country following the wave of violence.

Despite the weekend curfew several instances of violence directed at the Tamil minority were reported from various parts of the country. Tamil homes were attacked, shops looted and burnt and people assaulted.

The government yesterday called out more army volunteer units from mobilisation while troops were deployed to assist police.

Official sources said 25 people have been killed in the violence but unofficial estimates placed the death toll at about 50.

Mr. Amirthalingam, who is also leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) parliamentary group, told ET he called on the prime minister in his chambers in parliament this morning and requested him to declare a state of emergency.

Mr. Amirthalingam said the prime minister felt that such a step was not necessary at present.

Mr. Amirthalingam told the prime minister that attacks on Tamils in the majority Sinhalese areas continued under the curfew and requested him to take steps to stop such incidents.

Indonesian quake toll up to 70

JAKARTA, Aug. 22 (R). — At least 70 people died in the strong earthquake under the ocean bed which sent tidal waves surging over a group of islands in southern Indonesia last Friday. Social Affairs Minister H. Mintardja gave the latest official figure after reporting on the earthquake's aftermath to President Suharto.

He said those killed were on the islands of Sumba, Sumbawa, Lombok and Bali. Latest reports from the islands said that 70 other people were missing and 25 injured by buildings which collapsed when the earthquake struck at midnight on Friday with a force of 8.3 on the Richter scale.

ed Liberation Front (TULF) parliamentary group, told ET he called on the prime minister in his chambers in parliament this morning and requested him to declare a state of emergency.

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Shah of Iran, Empress Farah arrive in Poland for 5-day visit

WARSAW, Aug. 22 (Agencies). — The Shah of Iran and Empress Farah arrived here at midday for an official visit amid favourable front page coverage in the Polish press.

It is the Shah's third visit since 1969 and is in reply to the visit to Tehran last January by Polish Communist Party Secretary Edward Gierek.

The imperial couple together with Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Ali Khalafbari were met at the airport by Mr. Gierek, by the Polish head of state Henryk Jablonski, Prime Minister Piotr Jaroszewicz and other members of the Polish government.

The Shah is scheduled to stay in Poland until Friday when he will leave for Czechoslovakia on the second leg of his eight-day tour.

Together with official photos of the couple, the Polish press has published several articles on "the excellent and friendly relations between Iran and Poland."

The official news agency PAP and the party newspaper Orybuda Ludu, both reported that "these relations could be an example of the peaceful co-existence which is possible between states with different socio-political systems."

The press generally also stressed that "Iran and Poland hold converging points of view

Most Israelis favour Begin, shows survey

TEL AVIV, Aug. 22 (R). — A snap election in Israel would sweep Prime Minister Menachem Begin and his rightwing Likud Party back into power, an opinion poll showed here yesterday. The poll, conducted by a private company, indicated that the Likud Party would advance from 43 seats in the Knesset to an absolute majority of 63 seats in the 120-seat assembly if an election were held now. It also showed that 69.4 per cent of those questioned felt Mr. Begin was the "best possible choice" for the premiership. The once dominant Labour alignment would only muster 24 Knesset seats in an election now, instead of the 32 seats it won in the May general election, the poll said. The survey said that 56 per cent of those questioned said the "general feeling in the country was better" since Likud formed a new government, while only 8 per cent felt it had deteriorated.

Israeli-Palestinian clash at meet Marcos tells world law meeting of Filipino political reforms

MANILA, Aug. 22 (R). — President Ferdinand Marcos today announced an amnesty for people found guilty of subversion and ordered the release of others who have not yet been tried by military tribunals.

It was not immediately clear who would benefit by the amnesty, but it seemed to exclude people already on trial.

The Philippines president ordered the release of 1,000 people not formally charged. This left, according to official figures, more than 3,000 people in military detention for either criminal offences or subversion and suspected rebellion.

Informed sources said amnesty under the latest announcement was not automatic and would have to be applied for.

The announcement, which went into little detail, came in a keynote address to the opening of the eighth World Law Conference here.

President Marcos also announced the end of five years of overnight curfews and promised to hold local elections by next year in a move away from martial law in the Philippines.

The president said he was also lifting restrictions on international travel for Filipinos.

He declared martial law in September 1972.

President Marcos said laws introduced since then were a system of "constitutional authoritarianism" which maintained the rule of law.

Now the Philippines was "moving irrevocably" towards normality, he told the conference.

"I announce therefore that there will be elections for local officials not later than next year during which I hope to initiate an inquiry on when we can hold the other elections for all the other positions of government, and the effects of martial law itself will be lifted during the period of the campaign and the elections," he said.

The 1973 Constitution provides for a new parliamentary system of partly-appointed and partly-elected members. Under it the president, who will also be prime minister, would still retain strong law-making powers.

"But it has not yet been announced when elections to this body will be held or whether they will be direct or indirect. Political parties were abolished under martial law.

Earlier this month the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists accused President Marcos of maintain-

Calls for resignation of Italian minister because of Kappler affair

ROME, Aug. 22 (Agencies). — The Italian Republican Party plans to ask, during a Senate debate tomorrow, for the resignation of the Christian Democrat Minister of Defence Vito Lattanzio, whom it holds responsible for last week's sensational escape of war criminal S.S. Col. Herbert Kappler from a Rome prison hospital.

Sanctions have already been taken against a number of high-ranking Carabinieri officers, responsible for guarding the prisoner, but the Republican Party believes that final responsibility should rest with the minister.

In the political difficulties through which Italy is now passing, it is however considered unlikely that the coun-

try's major parties will support a motion likely to upset the precarious government balance. A number of leftwing spokesmen have been cautious in their comments, observers here note.

Sympathisers of the escaped Herr Kappler have claimed responsibility for a bomb which exploded outside the Italian Consulate in Paris late Saturday night.

The explosion, which occurred shortly before midnight, damaged the consulate's main door and broke a number of windows. No one was injured.

Later, consular officials found pamphlets in the consulate's letter-box, signed by "S.S.-France", claiming responsibility and expressing sympathy with Herr Kappler, consulate officials said.

Mafia vendetta thought behind killing of former Sicilian police chief

PALERMO, Sicily, Aug. 21 (R). — Former Mafia hunter police chief Giuseppe Russo died in a hail of bullets at a Sicilian holiday village on Saturday night.

Police said the cold-blooded attack bore all the marks of a Mafia vendetta execution. The 49-year-old retired police chief, a Colonel in Italy's para-military Carabinieri, was gunned down with a friend, 59-year-old teacher Filippo Corra, as they were taking an after-dinner stroll through the village of Bosco della Ficuzza. The place is named after a forest and former Mafia hideout.

Two gunmen jumped from a car and riddled them with pistol and sub-machine gunfire police said.

Col. Russo had just lit himself a cigarette. He was hit in the head and stomach. His friend collapsed with several bullets in his chest. Both died within minutes.

The killer escaped in a car with several accomplices. The car was later found near the wood.

Police launched a massive hunt for the assassins. Col. Russo was head of the investigative police unit of Palermo, responsible for policing the Mafia-riddled heartland of western Sicily for about 10 years until he retired six months ago.

"He fought all the time in the front line against the Mafia," one police official said here yesterday.

He was involved in almost all important investigations into Mafia crimes over the past

decade, including the murder of Palermo's Chief Prosecutor Pietro Scaglione, who was gunned down in 1971.

The slaying of the prosecutor has never been cleared up. Nor has the disappearance of journalist Mauro di Mauro who exposed Mafia rackets and was abducted from his home in 1970.

He has never been seen since. Both are believed to have fallen victim of Mafia vendetta.

Shortly before he resigned, Col. Russo arrested the alleged Mafia murderers of two Carabinieri, who are now awaiting trial. He had recently made plans to set up a small chemical factory near Palermo, sources close to his family said.

One of Col. Russo's successes was the arrest of Luciano Liggio, one of the most feared Mafiosi in Italian post-war criminal history.

Liggio and 31 other Mafiosi were sent to prison in 1974 on charges of associating to commit crime. Acquitted of charges of murder because of lack of evidence, Liggio received a six-year sentence.

Col. Russo's fight against the Mafia also concentrated on drug-trafficking and the Mafia's links to industrialists and Italy's political authorities, police sources said.

A special anti-Mafia commission of the Italian parliament last year published a report on the Mafia after 13 years of investigations and recommended social and economic reforms as the most effective ways of stamping it out.

News Focus

"National unity" impels Cypriot Communists to withdraw from presidential election campaign

By John Bierman

NICOSIA, Aug. 22 (R). — The leader of Cyprus' Communist Party which polled 40 per cent of the vote in parliamentary elections last September has declared the party will not put up a candidate in next February's presidential election.

"Such a move would merely divide the people at a time when national unity is imperative," said Mr. Ezekias Papaioannou, General Secretary of the Akel (Communist) Party in an interview with Reuters correspondent.

Akel is the most powerful political party in Cyprus. It is also the oldest, having celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, and the wealthiest. The smart, well-appointed party headquarters in the centre of Nicosia make the offices of the rival "capitalist" parties look shabby by comparison.

The presidential office became vacant with the death early this month of Archbishop Makarios, who led the island nation to independence in 1960.

The four main Greek-Cypriot political parties reached agreement that the Acting President, Mr. Syros Kyprianou, should continue in office until next February, when the archbishop's five-year presidential term would have expired.

Then there will be an election at which Mr. Kyprianou — a centre-right politician —

is expected to be one of the candidates.

Had there been no such agreement, a preliminary election would have been held next month for a person to serve as president until February.

Mr. Papaioannou, tall, broad-shouldered, is 69. Sitting in his air-conditioned office, he explained his party's strategy.

Speaking first of the decision not to force an election for a temporary president next month, he stressed that "unity is the most essential thing at the moment."

He added: "However civilised an election campaign might be, the fact remains that it would split the people — and a split at this crucial hour would damage the cause of Cyprus."

What of February? But what about the presidential election next February? Would the Communists not feel inclined to make a bid for power then? Mr. Papaioannou smiled. "We're not out for that just now," he said. His smile became a chuckle.

"The most important thing for Cyprus," he said, "is not to return to a Communist president but to maintain unity on the broadest possible basis to resolve the Cypriot problem in a democratic manner on the basis of United Nations resolutions."

ops from the Turkish mainland now occupying northern Cyprus and the return of some 200,000 Greek-Cypriot refugees to their homes in the area now administered as the Turkish Federated State of Cyprus.

Pressed to explain why, since his party controls the largest section of the popular vote, the right should not unite around the left rather than vice versa, Mr. Papaioannou said: "We feel that the best interests of the country would not be served by putting up a Communist candidate, because that would bring in matters of ideological differences and so on."

The Communist Party leader was putting it very mildly. As most Greek-Cypriots are uncomfortably aware, the emergence of a Communist bid for presidential power would probably bring tightwing gunmen of the old Eoka (union-with-Greece) faction out on to the streets, creating a situation bordering on civil war.

And the actual election of a Communist president, or any other kind of leftwinger backed by Akel, could have even more far-reaching consequences. For example, the Turkish army might take it as a signal to occupy the rest of the island on the basis that they were safeguarding a strategically vital area from falling into the Soviet sphere.

Even failing this, the election of a Communist president would create an extremely tense

superpower situation, with the United States losing a satellite Cyprus, and the Soviet Union forced, however reluctantly, to take up a position.

Kremlin's hand? Observers think it likely that the Kremlin has made it clear to Mr. Papaioannou that any open bid for power would be most unwelcome. Mr. Papaioannou, despite his moderate — some say positively "bourgeois" — domestic policies, is a faithful follower of the Kremlin foreign policy line.

Opening anti-apartheid meet Waldheim: South African policy breeds violence

LAGOS, Aug. 22 (AFP). — U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim opened a 68-nation anti-apartheid conference here today with a stern warning of racial violence which "could spread beyond control" unless South Africa changes its policies.

Addressing delegations from U.N. specialised agencies, trade unions, liberation movements and a host of bodies dedicated to the destruction of apartheid in the packed National Theatre here, Dr. Waldheim said: "We are confronted with the constant threat that such racial policies may precipitate acts of violence which could spread beyond control into the ultimate disaster of a racial conflict." Indirectly, Dr. Waldheim addressed an appeal to South African whites to avert such a situation.

"Change must occur in the hearts and minds of men and women who uphold and practice such abhorrent policies," the U.N. secretary general said. Issues facing this world conference for action against apartheid were of crucial importance to international peace, Dr. Waldheim said.

The conference has been mounted here by the U.N. in cooperation with the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) and the Nigerian government in consultation with South Africa's banned African National Congress (ANC) Pan-African

Congress of Azania (PAC) and SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation).

Nigeria speaks

In an opening address to the conference Nigeria's head of state Olusegun Obasanjo handed out a stiff warning to "Western collaborators" with South Africa.

The Nigerian leader called for an end to all foreign investment in South Africa as well as arms supplies and nuclear collaboration. He said Nigeria had set up an "economic intelligence unit" to check on the activities of foreign firms.

Foreign contractors known to have links with South Africa were barred from working in Nigeria, Lt. Gen. Obasanjo said, amid applause from the delegates.

Nigeria was also compiling information on all those governments who pretended to be Africa's friends but allowed themselves to be used as weapons suppliers to Pretoria, he added.

Lt. Gen. Obasanjo condemned the "mutual support" the OECD (Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) countries and South African economies render each other.

The Nigerian leader pledged his country's continued support for liberation movements operating against South Africa.

Information on all those governments who pretended to be Africa's friends but allowed themselves to be used as weapons suppliers to Pretoria, he added.

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Poland first bought 300,000 tons of Iranian oil in 1973, purchasing another 400,000 tons this year.

The proposed quota deal would provide for about 400,000 tons or more every year, the ministry spokesman said.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Soweto's student boycott called off

★ JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 22 (AFP). — The Soweto Students Representative Council (SSRC) has called on African students in the huge township here to end their school boycott. In a statement in the liberal Rand Daily Mail newspaper today it urged the students to "take their books to school in readiness to learn." The boycott began in July in protest against South Africa's Bantu (African) education policy. The SSRC now wants it suspended so that parents' organisations can put their children's grievances to the authorities in Pretoria.

Syrian commission begins corruption probe

★ DAMASCUS, Aug. 22 (AFP). — The Syrian government commission looking into ways of stamping out official corruption has begun work, the newspaper Tichrin reported today. Creation of the commission was announced by President Hafez Assad on Thursday in his speech to the opening session of the new People's Council (Parliament). The newspaper said documents were currently being gathered to speed the investigation into "corruption, abuse of power and misappropriation of funds." It said no one would be above suspicion during the probe, which was to take place quickly and in secret, and whose results will be made public when it was wound up.

Iraq voices support for Djibouti

★ BAGHDAD, Aug. 22 (R). — Iraq will continue to back the people of Djibouti in their "struggle against imperialism, Zionism and reaction," President Ahmad Hassan Al Bakr said here today. President Al Bakr, whose statement was quoted by the Iraqi News Agency, was addressing Djibouti's President Hassan Gouled who arrived here earlier today for a visit lasting several days. The Iraqi president declared that the visit would contribute to cementing cooperation between the two countries.

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